

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Krasnoyarsk Kray)	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Labor Camp for Poles in Krasnoyarsk	DATE DISTR.	10 July 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
25X1X (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. In the fall of 1943 when the Naval Medical School in Vereshchagino [N 58-05, E 54-40] was transferred to Krasnoyarsk [N 56-02, E 92-48], there was a Polish slave labor camp located on the southern outskirts of Krasnoyarsk.

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2.

3. These Poles were referred to officially in Krasnoyarsk as resettled persons (Spets-pereselentsy), from which term it could be inferred that they were civilian internees who were undesirable people from

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the point of view of the Soviet administration in occupied Poland. However, since I saw that the majority of them were wearing Polish military uniforms, I still believe that they were mostly officers and perhaps only a few civilians.

4. The Poles of the camp lived in about six or eight wooden barracks in an area surrounded by barbed wire fence. They were unguarded and could move about freely in Krasnoyarsk and its vicinity. A large number of them worked in a lumber procurement enterprise, leaving the camp in the morning and returning at night. Outside the barbed wire enclosure there was a saw mill where about 60 or 70 of them worked; this mill was equipped with an electric, circular saw and a vertical saw with four to five blades. The Poles working in this mill had to bring ashore timber, which had been floated down the Yenisey River, and cut it into boards.
5. I do not know what type of treatment the Poles received in the camp; from what I saw, I assumed that it was not harsh. Most probably the Poles had been brought to this area only because it was far away from the Polish border, making escape practically impossible.
6. I am not able to describe the camp. I know that the one-story wooden barracks in which the men lived could each accommodate 50 to 60 persons. The camp gate was constantly open; the camp itself was very primitive and had no running water or sewage system. I have no information on food rations; it might have been that there was no rationing system, but rather that the Poles had to buy their own food out of wages they received for their work. 25X1A
7. It was my impression from the conversations [redacted] and with other people in Krasnoyarsk, that in general they openly hated Russians, not differentiating between Soviet officials and the Russian population. I remember that when I started to talk with one of the Poles he asked me, "What in the hell do you want here? Why don't you beat it? You took my farm, my wife, my children --everything I had. You dressed me in these rags and brought me to this God-forsaken country. Now get lost before I break your neck."
8. I know that in 1946 an agreement was concluded between the Polish and Soviet governments to repatriate all Poles interned in the USSR after 1939. I heard, however, that approximately 40 to 50% of the interned Poles had perished in the USSR before the repatriation started. I never heard what happened eventually to those who were interned in Krasnoyarsk.

Enclosure:

- A. Location sketch of Polish Labor Camp in Krasnoyarsk

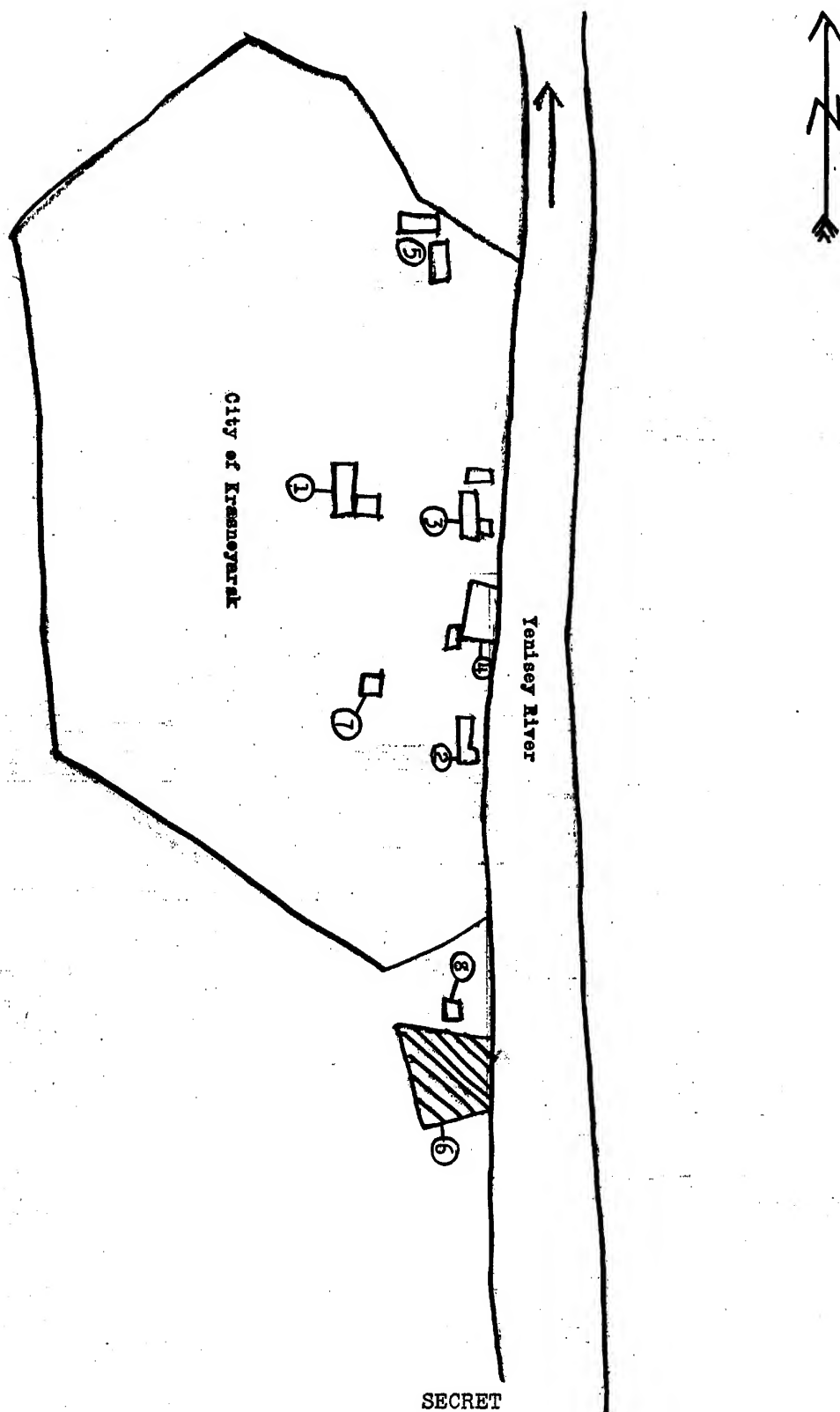
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Location Sketch of Polish Labor Camp in Krasnoyarsk



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1. Naval Medical School
2. Dormitory of the Naval Medical School
3. Garrison Hospital
4. Lumber Storage
5. Infantry Officer Candidate School
6. Polish Slave Labor Camp
7. Mess of the Naval Medical School
8. Sawmill

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